



STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri mourns the passing of former U.S. Senator and Governor Christopher S. “Kit” Bond, a sixth-generation Missourian whose lifetime of public service and statesmanship shaped the course of our state’s and nation’s history; and

WHEREAS, born in St. Louis and raised in Mexico, Governor Bond embodied the values of service, hard work, and a steadfast commitment to public good that would define his career; and

WHEREAS, an exceptional scholar, Governor Bond graduated *cum laude* from Princeton University and earned his law degree from University of Virginia before clerking for Chief Judge Elbert Tuttle of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta where he would champion civil rights by contributing to the enforcement of groundbreaking desegregation laws; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bond began his 40-year public service career in 1969 as an Assistant Attorney General before being elected State Auditor in 1970, earning the trust of voters statewide; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, at only 33 years old, Governor Bond made history as Missouri’s youngest Governor and first Republican Governor since 1945, marking a significant shift in Missouri’s political landscape; and

WHEREAS, despite the setback of losing reelection in 1976, Governor Bond demonstrated humility and resilience, returning to win a second term as Governor in 1980; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, Governor Bond’s commitment to service continued at the federal level, where he was elected to the United States Senate, becoming the only Republican that year to flip a seat previously held by a Democrat. Governor Bond was subsequently reelected in 1992, 1998, and 2004, serving with distinction for over a decade and earning a national reputation as a highly skilled legislator and bipartisan coalition builder who believed that the best ideas came not from bureaucrats or politicians, but from listening to constituents; and

WHEREAS, known for his trademark wit, deep compassion, and fierce love for his family, Governor Bond was admired across party lines for his intellect, pragmatism, and gift for bringing people together to solve real problems. He was a trusted friend, generous mentor, and steadfast leader whose legacy reaches far beyond politics. Missouri will remember him not only as a skilled statesman and public figure, but as a “favorite son” to his beloved home state, grounded, passionate, and forever committed to the people he served; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bond, a respected former Senator and Governor of Missouri who dedicated his life to public service, passed away on May 13, 2025, at 86 years old.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, as a mark of respect for the death of

THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER S. “KIT” BOND

and for his many years of honorable and dedicated service to the citizens of the State of Missouri do hereby order that the flag of the United States and the flag of Missouri shall be flown at half-staff at all government buildings in the State of Missouri from Tuesday, May 13, 2025, until sunset on Thursday, May 22, 2025.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 13th day of May 2025.



Michael Kehoe
Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE